

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (Currently amended) A method of treating or preventing Obstructive Sleep Apnea (OSA) including Central Sleep Apnea (CSA), comprising snoring, sleep apnea and other forms of sleep disordered breathing, that comprises the administration of a pharmacologically effective amount of zonisamide to a patient in need thereof, with the proviso that said snoring, sleep apnea, and sleep disordered breathing caused by external mechanical obstruction of the airways, such as by mucus, is excluded.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said therapeutically effective dose is effective during a substantial portion of a single sleep period.
3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein said substantial portion is 50% or more of said sleep period.
4. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein said substantial portion is 80% or more of said sleep period.
5. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein said single sleep period is from one hour to ten hours.
6. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the administration is peroral.
7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the administration is sublingual.

8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the administration is topical.

9. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the administration is confined to the frontal portion of the neck and the breast.

10. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the therapeutically active dose is released from a composition for controlled release over a period of time extending from 1 hour to 12 hours and more.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein from 50% to 100% of said therapeutically effective dose is released within a period of three hours from administration.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein from 80% to 100% of said therapeutically effective dose is released within a period of five hours from administration.

13. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein said therapeutically effective dose is from 50 to 800 mg.

14 - 21. (Canceled)

22. (Original) A protective patch comprising zonisamide in an amount therapeutically effective in the treatment of Obstructive Sleep Apnea (OSA) including Central Sleep Apnea (CSA), comprising snoring, sleep apnea and other forms of sleep

disordered breathing, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier for transdermal or transmucosal administration, with the proviso that snoring, sleep apnea, and sleep disordered breathing caused by external mechanical obstruction of the airways, such as by mucus, is excluded.

23. (Canceled)

24. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, comprising the administration of one or more additional compounds effective in the treatment of OSA or CSA. [I.]

25. (Canceled)

26. (Currently amended) The patch of claim 22, comprising one or more additional compounds effective in the treatment of OSA or CSA. [I.]

27. (Canceled)